

Commission. He next spent some time in private practice, and among other things spent some time in Alaska working on some issues related to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971.

Stan's congressional career started in 1975 when he joined the staff of what was then known as the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee. He served as counsel to the Mines and Mining Subcommittee, chaired by Representative PATSY MINK. He assisted with some important amendments to the Coal Leasing Act that were passed over the veto of President Ford and with a variety of other measures that came before that Subcommittee.

In 1977, Stan became a counsel to the new Subcommittee on General Oversight and Alaska Lands, chaired by former Representative John F. Seiberling. In this capacity, Stan worked with both Representative Seiberling and my father, Morris K. Udall, who was the Chairman of the full Interior Committee. Stan helped draft a number of key parts of the legislation that became the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), particularly those related to subsistence uses by Alaska's Native peoples. Stan staffed hearings throughout the lower 48 states and Alaska and was one of the many key professional staff who helped shape the final legislation. ANILCA was a milestone in conservation, setting aside more than 100 million acres of Alaska's most pristine, public lands—an area larger than the State of California—and more than doubling the size of the nation's systems of national parks, wildlife refuges, wilderness and wild and scenic rivers.

In addition to ANILCA, Stan has been involved with many other laws and regulations affecting the public lands and natural resources. He served as Representative Seiberling's staff counsel to the Select Committee on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). That Committee developed the 1978 Amendments to the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, which shifted the focus of debate on the OCS away from just energy production to a more balanced approach, which included greater protection for the environment. He also played a key role in connection with a variety of other measures, including the Colorado Wilderness Act of 1980 and the Military Lands Withdrawal Act of 1986.

When John Seiberling retired in 1987, Stan remained on the Interior Committee staff, serving under former Representative Bruce Vento, chairman of the Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands. He was involved in development of legislation, including the Arizona Desert Wilderness Act sponsored by my father, the Colorado Wilderness Act of 1993 that included legislation developed by my predecessor, Representative David Skaggs, and the California Desert Protection Act.

In 1995, Stan left the Resources Committee to become the Legislative Director for David Skaggs. Representative Skaggs was a member of the Interior Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee, so Stan was able to use his familiarity with public lands issues to assist in connection with those issues as they arose in that new context. He also dealt with the contentious issues related to Rocky Flats and the other sites in the DOE nuclear-weapons complex.

Stan was one of the first people I hired following my election in November 1998. I was fortunate to have someone who worked for my

predecessor and so was familiar with the Second Congressional District. As a newly elected Member of the Resources Committee, I also appreciated his familiarity with matters within its jurisdiction as well as the more senior members and the Committee staff.

At my office, Stan has made important contributions in drafting legislation to establish Rocky Flats as a national wildlife refuge after it is cleaned up and closed. He also has worked on the Udall-McInnis wilderness bill for James Peak, and fire prevention legislation I have proposed with my colleague, Mr. HEFLEY.

Stan's work has not been confined to the environmental arena. His keen intellect, common sense and sharp legal analysis have been invaluable on the wide range of issues and topics that face all members every day. He has been especially effective in tutoring many of the younger members of my staff on the inner workings of the House, the nuances of legislative drafting and as an example of the highest standard of professionalism for congressional staff.

Like any thoughtful and accomplished lawyer, Stan is often fond of saying that he "can argue it flat or argue it round", and his objectivity is legendary in our office. Having said that, however, I also know that beneath his always calm demeanor and his ability to see all sides of a question, there beats the heart of a man who is passionate about doing the "right thing." Stan has never compromised his firm and unswerving commitment to civil rights and liberty. He loves the absurdity that is sometimes politics, but he doesn't allow political analysis to get in the way of his strongly held views about the majesty of our constitution.

Stan is a public servant in the best sense. He brings a work ethic and code of professionalism that is always focused on the promotion of policies that best serve the environment, the public good and the values of honesty and bipartisanship that are the hallmarks of American democracy at its best. His contributions to my office, the offices of my predecessors, the House Resources Committee and the whole House of Representatives—and ultimately the people of the United States—serve as an example of a professional life that commands both respect and affection. I wish Stan a happy birthday and many productive years ahead.

THE CONGRESSIONAL GLAUCOMA CAUCUS URGES AMERICANS TO GET SCREENED THROUGH CAPITOL VISION

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 6, 2002

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the issue of glaucoma awareness and the importance of early detection to prevent blindness among Americans.

Glaucoma, a debilitating eye disease that strikes without warning and often without symptoms, blinds more than 5,500 Americans annually. While impacting all Americans, glaucoma is the leading cause of blindness in African-Americans. Because eye damage from glaucoma cannot be reversed, early detection and treatment are the only ways to prevent vision impairment and blindness.

As a member of the Congressional Glaucoma Caucus, I am pleased to announce that glaucoma will take on a renewed emphasis on March 6, as the Congressional Glaucoma Caucus, Friends of the Congressional Glaucoma Caucus Foundation and Pharmacia Corporation join forces to bring glaucoma awareness and screenings to those at risk around the United States.

Capitol Vision, the call-to-action and educational campaign, will challenge Americans to learn more about glaucoma and encourage them to take positive steps to protect their vision. Capitol Vision will especially emphasize the importance of glaucoma awareness among African-Americans, who are three to four times more likely to go blind from glaucoma than are Caucasians. We will also raise awareness of the Medicare Improvement Act—effective since January 2002—that adds Medicare coverage of annual glaucoma screenings for people who are at high risk for glaucoma.

Rep. Charles B. Rangel (D-New York); Bud Grant, CEO, Friends of the Congressional Glaucoma Caucus Foundation; Eve Higginbotham, M.D., Professor and Chair, Department of Ophthalmology, University of Maryland School of Medicine; Paul Chaney, Vice-President, Global Ophthalmology Business, Pharmacia Corporation; Herman Washington, WHUR-FM; and Sharon Matthews, a glaucoma patient, will join me to kick off the campaign with a media briefing in the Rayburn building on March 6 in Washington, D.C. Capitol Vision will then travel to communities throughout the country to provide free glaucoma screenings. The first screening will take place in Rep. Rangel's district in late March.

I am honored to join forces with such a distinguished group to tackle a very important health concern. I strongly encourage other members of Congress to join us in our efforts to promote early detection of glaucoma so that we can eradicate a disease that steals the sight of many Americans.

IN HONOR OF JAMES M. SMITH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 6, 2002

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of James M. Smith, who is retiring after 30 years of distinguished service on the Cuyahoga County District Board of Health, 28 of which he served as President. Mr. Smith's unwavering commitment to public service has been invaluable to the people of Cuyahoga County. His integrity, intelligence, and unselfish commitment will be greatly missed.

Mr. Smith grew up in Nebraska where as early as high school he displayed leadership as president of his senior class. After high school he served his country during WWII in the Navy and the Naval Corp. He went on to attend the University of Michigan where he earned a BBA degree from the School of Business Administration and a JD from the law school. He then moved to Cleveland where he opened his own law practice which he ran for many years before merging with the firm founded by William R. Van Aken in 1977. He became a senior partner in what is now called, Van Aken & Bond.